

Business Notices.

THE PROPRIETOR of the MAISON DOREE, fearing that the public has misunderstood the announcement in the papers of the opening of his house, begs leave to notify those who have already favored him with their patronage, and the public generally, that the "PRIVATE ROOMS" in his house are exclusively for families or guests passing to order.

New-York Daily Tribune
SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1861.

The Tribune's War Maps.
We shall issue on Tuesday, July 23, an EXTRA TRIBUNE, containing the various Maps published in THE TRIBUNE since the commencement of the War. Price five cents. Three dollars per 100. Terms cash. Address THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

Our very latest dispatch says that Gen. Tyler's whole division moved from Centerville last night going around the rebels at Bull's Run to cut off Johnston's reinforcements.

Jeff. Davis sent his Message to the Rebel Congress yesterday; but the telegraph works badly, and we could not get it for this edition.

We print elsewhere Col. Sigel's official report of the battle of Carthage. The entire loss on his side was 13 killed and 31 wounded—a most extraordinary result in view of the great advantage of the enemy in numbers and choice of position. It is said, we hope truly, that Col. Sigel has been promoted, and is now a Brigadier-General.

Two of the crew of the pirate Sumter were brought here yesterday. They were a part of a prize crew put on board an English vessel, the Captain and crew of which recaptured their ship and put the privateers in irons. The men gave some interesting statements of the doings of the now famous Rebel or pirate skimmer.

We give on another page a carefully prepared map of the Delta of the Mississippi, showing the many mouths of that river, and suggesting an idea of the force necessary for its complete blockade. It is accompanied by a table of the distances from New-Orleans of all the most important points, and will be found extremely convenient for reference in connection with the war in that quarter.

We congratulate the country on the appointment of Major General BANKS to the command of the army-corp operating against the rebels by way of Harper's Ferry and Martinsburg, hitherto under Gen. Patterson of Pennsylvania. The term of service of that officer having expired, with that of the three months levies from Pennsylvania, Gen. Banks succeeds rather than supersedes him. Gen. Cadwalader of Pennsylvania, and we presume Gen. Sandford of New-York, will no doubt, also, withdraw by the expiration of their term of service. We are confident that the judgment, energy and genius of Gen. Banks will now as brilliantly approve themselves in the field as they have done in the administration of affairs at Baltimore, where he is succeeded by Gen. Dix, than whom a better man for the place could not be found.

The House was not in session yesterday. In the Senate the bill to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to remit certain fines was passed. Mr. Johnson of Tennessee, offered a bill to provide for organizing and arming the loyal men in the Rebel States. The Washington Police bill was passed, giving the President of the Senate and Speakers of the House the appointment of the Police force. On the resolution to approve the acts of the President, Mr. Latham of California made a strong speech in favor of sustaining the Government and putting down rebellion. He indorsed all the President had done, except the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* in Maryland, and the increasing of the regular army.

Vice-Grand Traitor, Alexander H. Stephens, is now on a begging journey through the Rebel States. On the 11th inst. he made a speech near his own home, at Augusta, Ga., a report of which we print this morning. Mr. Stephens was one of the last (as he is one of the ablest) of Southern statesmen to succumb to the insanity of the day, and join his fortunes with the shallow-brained Yanceys and Kettles of the early Rebellion; but he was tempted by the Vice-Presidency and fell, like Lucifer, never to rise again. In the speech before us, Mr. Stephens talks in a very plain manner, and tells so much involuntary truth that we are disposed to forgive his glaring errors of fact, such as rating the valuation of New-York State at two hundred millions of dollars less than the tax-list of the City alone. The burden of his theme is, that the South have got into a bad scrape, and they cannot get out; that they must fight, no matter if the war lasts until doomsday; and he argues that because a handful of Greeks overthrew an immense Persian army, therefore a lot of traitors can crush the four hundred thousand patriots coming up to the rescue of Freedom; but then it is better to raise an equal force—indeed, it is imperative; but after all God gives the victory, and He will of course give it to the South. This talking Alexander proceeds to prove that the South has always been right, the North always wrong—the South the incarnation of piety, virtue, meekness, good faith, honor, bravery, &c., &c., the North, on the contrary, quite the reverse. Then he depicts the latter ruin of the North, especially of New-York City, (which has sent 30,000 men against the Rebels, and is ready to double the number), now consisting of deserted bricks and mortar walls no more than the ruined heaps in the arid plains of Babylon. He shows that the hinges of the universe, if not the tail-pin of the earth, swing upon short staple upland Georgia Cotton;—that unless the Cotton and its raisers have their own perfect way in the world, creation was a mistake and existence worse than nonsense. Of the blockade, why, "it will be raised," but he cannot tell when or how; of the bonds he offers for Cotton, they are good enough if the makers succeed; if they don't, they are worth just exactly nothing at all—a safe unit upon which to calculate interest. The speech throughout, in spite of the assumed confidence of tone, betrays the weakness of the Rebel cause. The want of faith in their own plans, their hopelessness in this mendacious method of raising money—indeed, the painful scarcity of money to be raised—the unavoidable conviction that President Lincoln's Message and the patriotic efforts of Congress have crushed the spirit of treason; all these are manifest through the

thin gloss of rhetoric about fighting for their freedom and the right of self-government. It is a speech full of assumptions, threats, and denunciations—sounding more like the dying confession of an unrepentant burglar, than the honest appeal of a patriot and statesman.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

There was no important movement yesterday on the part of the National troops. Gen. McDowell is having a thorough reconnaissance made, and that work is not yet completed. Our troops at Bull's Run occupy the ground they held in the battle of Thursday, and are within a mile of the Rebel intrenchments. It is said that the anxiety of the Rebels about Bull's Run arises from the fact that there is no water at Manassas, the supply being brought from the Rio, and that if driven back at this point they would be obliged to quit Manassas also.

Some important changes of commanders have been made. Gen. Banks takes Patterson's place, and Gen. Dix is ordered to Baltimore. It is said that Gen. Patterson had disregarded orders to move forward—an act entirely inexcusable, if true. But he is now said to be on the march to Winchester. Meanwhile it is pretty certain that the Rebel force under Gen. Johnston is moving in all haste to join Gen. Beauregard at Manassas; so that Patterson will not be likely to have a fight at Winchester.

Movements of the enemy indicate that they mean to make a determined fight at Manassas. Beside Johnston's division, all the troops on the Potomac have gone off, and Beauregard has, doubtless, brought from Richmond, Lynchburg and other southern places, all the men he can raise.

We have various reports from Missouri, but no more battles have been fought. Gen. Lyon is near Springfield with 6,000 men. Ben. McCulloch and Gov. Jackson have gone into Arkansas, where they have established camps, and are drilling a force of 17,000 men. Jackson acknowledges the loss of 500 killed in the battle with Col. Sigel. Gen. Pope, National, has command in Northern Missouri with a force of 7,000.

THE CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Who was it who invented the grand phrase "the March of Events"? Certainly, it was no Yankee, and it never could have been suggested by the way the Events of our History have of getting over the ground. The dignified deliberation implied in the word "march" is anything but descriptive of their method of locomotion. "Double-quick time" is the only military word of command that is at all expressive of the rapidity of their motion. In the hurry of their onward progress they take our public men, civil and military, off their feet so that they suddenly find themselves far in advance of where they last remembered themselves, and perplexed with the new and puzzling environment of circumstances that surround them. Our worthy President protested in his Inaugural, and again, if we remember aright, in his Proclamation, that he had no intention of invading any of the sovereign States with any purpose of coercing them; for all he proposed to himself was to repossess the Nation of the little articles of property the Secessionists had helped themselves to. And now he finds himself hurried along with his armies upon the sacred soil of Virginia, and with no particular acquaintanceship, apparently, as to tramping on the sacred soil of any of the other rebellious States as soon as he gets ready. Events have been more than a match for him.

So as to the matter of interference with the slaves in the rebel States. He placed his pledge of obedience to the Fugitive Slave bill at the head of his Inaugural, and there, as at every proper opportunity since, he avowed his intention of maintaining the rights of property—which, of course, means slave property—everywhere within his jurisdiction. We do not find fault with him for all this, for he could do no otherwise without violating the oath of office he had just taken. He could have no original intention of doing anything further than to restore the old state of things, if it were possible, after the rebellion was subdued. But Events have been too strong for him again, and we find him and his Cabinet accepting joyfully Gen. Butler's exposition of the law of Contraband of War, which relieved them from a grave embarrassment. Slaves in a rebellious State, seeking sanctuary under the national flag, are not to be restored to their masters, because they might be used as intrenching tools or otherwise, to the disadvantage of the armies of the Union. The simplicity of this rendering of law, we hope, may in time commend itself to the understanding of the Rhode Island officer who, in the fervency of his zeal for slave-catching, made prisoners of a couple of free negroes, and sent them back to Maryland, and even of the booty colonel from Massachusetts, whose notorious incapacity almost produced a mutiny, and did actually cause a reorganization of his regiment to make his retention possible, who has lately delivered up a man to Slavery, without any process of law, on the simple word of a Rebel who claimed him.

But though Events are so swift of wing, and sweep away Presidents and Cabinets, they know not whither, and they can scarcely see how, still the new complications they create demand the wisest consideration on their part, that they may not fatally entangle the honor and the true interest of the Nation. The disposition to be made of these contraband negroes after the war shall be over is a question most deeply involving the character of the country and the reputation, at home and abroad, and the statesmen responsible for its decision. It will be assuming larger and larger proportions every day, after our armies begin to occupy the revolted territory, and it cannot receive too soon the calm and serious consideration of all thoughtful public and private men, so that there may be no danger of a damaging and disgraceful solution. There is no truth in the report which obtained circulation sometime since, that General Butler had stopped the coming of fugitives to Fortress Monroe, on the ground that he had no room for them. On the contrary, as we are assured on the best authority, he could receive and employ profitably many more than he has. But the supply has ceased to meet the demand, from the very old state of things obtaining in that region. The time which John Randolph saw, in vision, years ago, when the masters should run away from the slaves, has actually come to that vision. The slaves being left in possession of the farms and produce, and it much pleasanter to consume the kindly fruits of the earth, which they have planted, and to assimilate into their own human nature the pigs and poultry left upon their hands, than to apply for the daily tasks

and daily rations General Butler is ready to furnish them with. But when the cold weather comes on, and the supplies run low, they will undoubtedly claim the hospitality of the Forts, unless, indeed, the war shall have rolled far inland by that time. But in this case, there will only be a larger number of contraband chattels to be disposed of, and the question will only grow the more imperative—what is to be done with them?

Whatever the affirmative answer to this question may be, we are sure that the self-respect, humanity and decency of the Free States will unanimously agree in the answer which must be returned to it, negatively. There can be but one opinion as to what is not to be done with them. The slaves who have been received under the safeguard of our flag, whether through their own escape from their masters or their masters' escape from them, are *never, under any possible circumstances, to be returned as slaves to their masters.* This is a self-evident proposition. The legal right of property in these slaves, and all claim to protection in it under the Constitution and laws of the United States, ceased at the moment and by the effect of the rebellion of the revolted States to that Constitution and those laws. To reduce them again to Slavery, after having once taken them under the protection of the nation, would be a worse crime than the original enslavement of the native Africans from whom they are descended. The public sentiment of all Christendom and of all civilized Heathenese would cry foul shame upon such a breach of faith, such an outrage upon hospitality, so base and cowardly an act of cruelty committed by a mighty nation on the weakest of the suppliants at its feet. The reputation of no public man could survive so odious a proposition, while its practical carrying out would blacken the name of the offender with undying infamy and make it a by-word and a hissing to the ends of the earth. While we do not suspect the President or any member of his Cabinet of being capable of such a crime as this, or even of its contemplation, we can fully understand the embarrassment which the disposition of these anomalous entities—in the very article of chrysalis metamorphosis from things to men—must give them, as well as the enduring credit which a satisfactory solution of it must secure to them.

We have been charged by the press in the interest of the rebels, here and elsewhere, of having urged forward the war as a means for the abolition of Slavery. Our readers know how false this accusation is. We could not ask the President to carry on this war for any object which would involve a violation of his oath of office. The primary purpose of the President necessarily was to restore the state of things previous to the war, after subduing the rebellion and condignly punishing the traitors. But though it could be no part of his purpose to abolish Slavery, still less could it be any part of it to strengthen it, or to do any act for its comfort which was not imperatively exacted from him by his constitutional duty. Slavery is notoriously, by the confession of the Rebels as well as by the instinct of all true men, the "terror" "cause"—the blackest provocation—of this war, and therefore not entitled to any special grace and favor on our part. Wherever Slavery and Freedom come fairly in collision, and a decision is to be made on one side or the other, on the merits of the case, and not compelled by any Constitutional necessity, the President and Cabinet may be expected, as we are sure they wish, to decide in favor of Liberty. Such a case is the one under consideration. We are not competent to pass upon the details of its settlement, and are willing to leave them in the hands of the responsible authorities. But we think we can assure those eminent persons that they will receive a warm and cordial support from all that is best, and from the class most numerous, in the Free States, in any just, liberal policy toward these unfortunate persons. Perhaps it may be found practicable after the war,

"When statutes show the refusal of the world," and the estates of notorious traitors are confiscated for their crimes, that small holdings may be granted to the blacks thus in our keeping, with the pledge of the protection of the nation in their humble rights. Thus a class of peasantry might be created of infinite use in the development of the resources of the Slave States. Should their number be unmanageable, there could be no objection to the extension of facilities on the part of the Government, to such as might wish to try their fortunes in Hayti, in Jamaica, in Central America, or wherever else it might seem good to them to abide. Of course, it would be competent to Congress to grant reasonable compensation to unquestionable Union men for the loss of their slaves in this way—to any Rebel, *never!* That the best resolution of this difficulty will present itself at the right moment, if sought earnestly and in good faith, we have faith to believe. Probably, we shall all wonder to find how easy a thing it was to be just, and marvel at our unbelief and hardness of heart. And of all the wreaths which will await the heroes of this war—whether in the Cabinet or the field—there will be none brighter than his who shall bear away the glory of this renowned victory of Peace.

ARKANSAS AND THE CHEROKEES.

John Ross, the principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, avows a neutrality for himself and his people which, in their situation, is worthy of commendation. Neutrality in Kentucky and Missouri is a treacherous attempt to gain time for preparation in order to join in the insurrection against the Government, or a cowardly hesitation to be abandoned only when one side or the other shall prove itself the stronger party. But John Ross is "constrained to avow a position of strict neutrality," because, unassured by the cajoleries, and intimidated by the threats of Arkansas traitors, he will not take up arms against the Union. Isolated from the Free States, and too far removed from the center of operations to receive any support from Government, the best thing he can do, while he avows his allegiance to the Union, is to maintain a simply ineffective attitude. It is ineffective, however, only so far as taking up arms against the Secessionists is concerned, while the language of Ross, in a correspondence between him and the Governor of Arkansas and some border ruffians of that State, which has been recently published, can have found little favor in the eyes of the Arkansas people. As long ago as January last, Henry M. Rector, the Governor of Arkansas, endeavored to seduce the Indians from their allegiance. He assured them that "it was well established that the Indian Country west of Arkansas is looked to by the incoming Admin-

istration of Mr. Lincoln as fruitful fields ripe for the harvest of Abolitionism, Free-Soilers, and Northern mountebanks!" But even the dread of the frightful creatures who make the climax in this fearful trinity did not upset the courage or good sense of the Cherokee. He replied temperately, calmly, and frankly, that by treaties they were under the protection of the United States, whose faith, on the other hand, was pledged to them, and that "thus the Cherokee people are invariably allied with their 'White Brethren of the United States in war, and friends in peace.'"

The Governor thus failing, in May, one J. R. Kennedy, Lieut.-Col. commanding Fort Smith, "tried it on" and was let loose upon poor John Ross. The Lieut.-Col. commanding Fort Smith understands that Senator Lane of Kansas is raising troops to operate on the borders of Missouri and Arkansas, and he wishes to know on which side the Indians are to be counted in the conflict—whether they will "adhere to the United States Government" or "support the Government of the Southern Confederacy." To whom John makes answer, in a tone not more conciliatory than was natural in the Chief of a people "weak, defenseless, and scattered over a large section of country in 'the peaceful pursuits of agricultural life,' but still firmly, that they were still bound by treaties in relations of amity and reciprocal rights and obligations with the United States, and as they could not abandon these, so he hoped they would be left in peace.

About the same time that this military attempt was made to frighten Ross into submission, the power of public sentiment was brought to bear upon him. The usual method of moral suasion in that country, as contra-distinguished from military coercion, is to hang a man to the nearest oak tree by the handiest grape vine. But they did not resort to this method with the Cherokee Chief, perhaps from a consciousness that there might be some of the old Adam left in the blood of these civilized Indians, who have great veneration and love for Ross. But they sent a letter to him signed by a number of influential white savages of Arkansas, to know whether the Cherokees were to be looked upon as friends or enemies. To this was sent substantially the same answer—still plausible, but still firm. "You will not surely regard us as an enemy," says the Chief; but "you will not expect us to destroy our national and individual rights." Brave John Ross! His firmness, and the dread perhaps of arousing an Indian tribe has, thus far, made him respected. As the Arkansas traitors failed to seduce him, they have since let him alone.

COFFEE, TEA, AND SUGAR.

These indispensable elements of existence for the million have been brought so prominently into notice by the contemplated tax upon them as to render the subject worthy of particular examination. Although thirty millions of people, from the stalwart adult to the infant in the cradle, are to be affected by the tax, yet no antagonistic voice is heard in deprecation of what all feel to be a political necessity. This is the more remarkable from our being the greatest sugar-consuming people in the world. In 1840 the average consumption per individual was 16 pounds, but in 1855 it had risen to 40 pounds, thus far outstripping the increase of population. During most of this period the cost has been steadily diminishing, especially to consumers in the West, owing to the multiplication of steamboats and railroads, and the consequent reduction of freights. In all that region the increase of consumption has been enormous. From 1849 to 1854 it was 53 per cent; from 1855 to 1859 it was 80 per cent; and from 1850 to 1854 it was 70 per cent.

Coffee, on the other hand, has been steadily advancing in price for the last three years, that is, all kinds except Java. Prices have risen higher than ever before. The advance over 1839 in Laguayra is about 164 per cent, in St. Domingo 194, in Brazil 18, but in Java only about 9 per cent. Brazil supplies us with the great bulk of our consumption, but in that country about crops having been gathered, light supplies and high prices followed. In 1855 we received thence 251,355,000 pounds, but in 1860 only 177,630,000. Our whole importation of coffee in 1860, omitting the Pacific States, was 185,779,639 pounds, against 248,757,306 in 1859. The consumption in 1860 was 46,352,227 pounds less than in 1859, a decrease of over 20 per cent, while the advance in price was very nearly at the same rate. The total consumption of coffee in Europe and the United States is estimated at 255,000 tons, of which the latter consumes about 80,000, or nearly 180,000,000 pounds, our consumption increasing about 4 per cent annually, and Europe rather over 3 per cent.

The Custom-House returns disclose many facts of great interest at the present moment, in relation to the coffee supply. They seem to foreshadow a continued advance in price, independent of any import duty. The world is evidently drinking coffee at a rate faster than the growers are producing it. It grows only within the tropics, at least not with profit beyond them. Appearances indicate that the limit of production has been very nearly reached, unless Africa, just opening up to civilization, should be induced to cultivate the superior article which her soil is known to yield. Brazil, but a few years ago without a single coffee-tree, yields a very fluctuating supply, and for some six years past has been reducing her production. St. Domingo, once the fountain from which all Europe drew its supplies, is stationary, while from India there is no large increase, as in some districts its cultivation has been abandoned for that of cotton and sugar. Ceylon and Venezuela are the only countries from which increased supplies are now obtained to satisfy the growing consumption of the world.

Consumers have been wondering why coffee should have risen as it has, but commercial statistics prove that they are using it up as fast as it is produced, leaving no surplus whatever. As the case now stands, it is simply a question, or will be in a few years, as to how much per pound the coffee drinker will be willing to pay rather than go without it. If the proposed duty is still further to enhance prices, it is proper that the public should understand that other causes are steadily at work tending to the same result. If the consumers are to pay the duty of 5 cents, their number will be lessened, or they will use it more sparingly. Some will abandon its use entirely, while others will use substitutes of rye or sweet potatoes, just as thousands did in the war of 1812. But it is one of the notable coincidences of the age, that two such staples as cotton and coffee should be suddenly discovered to be deficient in supply. Both may maintain enormous prices in consequence, but price will inevi-

tably stimulate production, until the old equilibrium is restored.

Of sugar we consume about six times as much as coffee. Last year our whole consumption was 415,231 tons, or 930,147,440 pounds. The consumption was 35,622,730 pounds less than in 1859, and this decrease all occurred in the last quarter of the year, induced by the absolute inability of the people to consume as formerly, in consequence of the monetary derangements, the destruction of mechanical employments, and the host of collateral curses which fell upon the community from the sudden development of an astounding treason. The same causes diminished the consumption of molasses 13 per cent. Here are two prime necessities of the poor placed beyond their reach by the Rebellion. There was neither scarcity nor high prices to do this, for sugar fell two cents in December, from simple inability to buy. This inability has been constantly increasing, and consumption has been so enormously reduced in consequence that sugars have ruled this Summer at extraordinarily low prices. It is comparatively at a stand, Rebellion having impoverished thousands. The quantity of foreign sugar consumed in 1859 was 665,178,000 pounds, and it is on this, as well as on 27,724,265 gallons of foreign molasses, that additional duties are to be levied. Thus, every time the poor man sweetens his tea or coffee, he pays tax to this Slaveholder's Rebellion. Assuming the duty on all kinds of sugar to average 24 cents per pound, the minimum being 24, the revenue will be \$18,292,330. Worse than the poor man paying nearly half of this enormous sum, is the fact of its acting as a higher protection than was ever before extended to the very traitors who produce in Louisiana, Texas and Florida, the remaining 2,950,000 pounds of sugar and 19,000,000 gallons of molasses we consume. Of them comes the rebellion we are thus taxed to suppress; yet if anything is ever to again set them on their feet, it is this very poor man's tax on sugar and molasses. The duty on imported molasses will be six cents per gallon, equal to a revenue of \$1,323,452 more. This looks like making Free Labor pay the cost of suppressing a rebellion intended to crush it out, and to set up Slave Labor in its stead. A salutary confiscation on the largest scale should be instituted, to equalize results and show that there is some vitality in the doctrine of compensations.

The importation of tea for 1860 was as follows:

Green tea	17,053,220
Black tea	17,053,220
Japan tea	305,320
Total	34,411,760

The exports were about 10,000,000 pounds, leaving, in round numbers, 23,000,000 on which the new duties are to be levied, 15 cents on black, and 20 cents on green, or say an average of 17 1/2 on the whole, equal to a revenue of \$4,025,000.

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that, taking consumption of coffee, sugar, tea, and molasses to be equal to what it was in 1859, the tax imposed upon us by rebellion will, on these items, be as follows:

On 100,000,000 pounds of coffee, at 5 cents	\$5,000,000
On 665,178,000 pounds of sugar, at 24 cents	15,924,272
On 27,724,265 gallons of molasses, at 6 cents	1,663,456
On 2,950,000 pounds of sugar, at an average of 14 1/2	4,225,000

Three give a total of \$26,812,728, as the certain tax to be imposed upon us annually, for an indefinite term, all on the absolute necessities of life, as part of the huge legacy of treason. A fractional portion of the total is now raised from sugar, but it will be largely overborne by other forms of taxation. These conclusions, though perhaps not critically correct, are nevertheless founded on official returns, and are quite near enough the truth to furnish an intelligible view of how, and at whose expense, the cost of suppressing rebellion is to be paid. Enormous, however, though the grand total of cost may be, the country will cheerfully bear with it if it can see treason effectually crushed and punished.

INVESTIGATION NEEDED.

The resolution passed by the House of Representatives on Wednesday, appointing a Committee to examine into the War Department's contracts, cannot fail, if faithfully carried out, to result in much good. Whether just or not, there is a very prevalent impression that more profit is made by those holding some of these contracts than legitimately belongs to them. If that impression is correct, there is need of reform, and if wrong, it should be done away with. Both public good and private character require this, and there should be no obstacle thrown in the way of a proper inquiry.

The system of employing contractors, though useful, and sometimes indispensable, is often an impediment rather than a help to the public business. A case in point has come to our knowledge. There is at this moment in this city a steamer, the Shantung, just off the stocks, built for the coasting trade in China. She is an admirable vessel in every respect, built in the most thorough manner, both in hull and machinery, as a vessel must be to run where repairs are impossible, except by sending to the antipodes to supply a loss or damage. This ship is peculiarly calculated by size, character, and armament for Government use, and could be made, on the moment, of immense service. The Government knows it, and wants her, and is willing to pay for her. The owners are willing, though not desirous, to part with her, and are ready to sell her at a price which will simply remunerate them for building another like her to answer their own purpose. But there stand between those who should be the contracting parties, the Government and the owners, middlemen, who have their own interests to consult as a third party. The Government can buy, or the owners can sell, provided the third party makes a profit, and not otherwise. The owners are not disposed to put a price upon her which shall make her cost to the Government more than she is worth; the Government, on the other hand, allege that the matter is not in their control, but in that of contractors, who are empowered to conduct such transactions. The result is that the owners, disgusted with a negotiation conducted on such principles, are fitting out the steamer for her original destination, China, and the Government will probably lose a vessel admirably fitted for the service for which they require her, and for which she is peculiarly fitted. The case is one worthy of looking into by the Committee of Investigation. Should the Government propose, as we hope they will, to call into service a large number of merchant vessels to aid in the blockade of the Southern coast, the Committee may discover, by looking into this case, how advantageously a portion of public business may be done without the intervention of contractors.

It is proper to add that the owners of the Shantung are personally unknown to us, and are

not even aware that we are acquainted with these facts much less that they were to be made public.

Mr. H. J. Raymond, writing from Fairfax Court House, makes the following statement: "Gen. McDowell has had the Topography of the Potomac and its tributaries, and the accurate map of this portion of the State. It has been brought to a very high state of perfection, and is particularly valuable from the fact that no good maps of this country have ever before been made. A few photographic copies of this map were made a few days since for the use of the War Department, and of the officers engaged in the movement. One of these maps is a fine and in the camp of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry. Of course, it could only have come there by the courtesy of some person holding responsible position in our Government."

In this case the treachery cannot be charged upon Mr. J. E. Harvey, though it is a curious coincidence that the evidence of treason was found in a South Carolina camp. But why the Administration should persist in employing traitors is a problem which we have much reflected on, but are still unable to solve.

MR. W. H. RUSSELL AND HIS DEFAMERS.

The reporter must expect to bear severe judgments passed upon his personal character by vulgar men clothed in a little brief authority, and to have his motives stubbornly suspected, and his capacities perky criticised by the merest novices in affairs, and to be at once thwarted by official vanity and mock dignity in the prompt and full collection of facts, and censured if he falls short a jot in accuracy and dispatch. He must develop his instincts of refinement; his manners must conform to the code of etiquette of the obsequious and humble chameleon; he must applaud all actors in every scene, though he writes beneath his mask at their silly and humiliating efforts; he must be omnipotent in resources, and grateful for the smallest aid of man; sure to state exactly what he must know by rumor; and must forever bear the badge that ignorant souls long since pinned to the craft, and that stamps him "penny-alien." All this, in the consciousness of the dignity and power of his profession, he is willing to meet from those nominal of both, except so far as they serve their own temporary interests, or minister to their exulting vanity. But there should be honor among "penny-alieners." There should be some mutual protection of each other's good fame. Criticism of differing opinions is no bar to the unity of an independent press; but what could sustain the dignified verdict of the outside world that journalism is naturally a low trade, that true manliness of character is impossible in it, that it is to be forever suspected and buffed, so well as attempts of journalists to impugn the motives and discredit the standing of their fellow?

The correspondent of *The London Times*, watching events in this country, has suffered from this degraded of simple professional etiquette. It was to be expected, perhaps, that *The Herald* would snap at his heels, for defamation is the hope from which it sucks its unhealthy life; but that the particular intimate of the family and *avant-courier* of civilization, the very respectable *Harper's Weekly*, should descend to such puppyism, is a fact for American literature. When Mr. Russell went South a young artist accompanied him. His sketches were to be furnished to *The Weekly*. He did not complete the tour, but returned without a meeting the efficient service that was expected of him. His employers apologized, in a measure, to their patrons for the failure of the expedition, by imputing treachery to Mr. Russell, accusing him of a tacit refusal to sustain their artist in the pretext by which he sought to evade the retribution of Southern foes to Northern literature. To throw the onus of falsehood upon a series of communications were published, one of which purported to be addressed to *The Weekly* by Mr. Sam. Ward, who was also a traveling companion of Mr. Russell.

A communication from this gentleman to a daily cotemporary shows that the young artist of the Messrs. Harper at the first received Mr. Russell, by claiming a connection with a foreign illustrated paper; that he fayed himself into Mr. Russell's society, much against his inclination; that when his business was questioned by Southern editors, the young artist denied the *Harper's* utterly, and was saved from annoyance, if not violence, only by the honest and good-natured championing of his companion; that his identity being afterward discovered by Mr. Ward, he implored Mr. W. "not to tell Mr. Russell," that it was not until Mr. R. had given "his assurance that Mr. Davis was not connected with the No. 10 Press" that this artist received the permission of Gen. Beauregard to sketch the Rebel works. Mr. R. being still ignorant of the real fact; that charity alone saved the young artist from severe rebuke for his dishonesty. Mr. Ward thinks that something worse than ignorance must have inspired the statement of the Messrs. Harper that they had "every reason to believe that Mr. Russell knew, when he left Washington, that Mr. Davis was going with him as the artist of *Harper's Weekly*." Mr. Russell was from the first deceived. If his efforts to shield Mr. Davis were unguided by a full appreciation of the case, the proprietors of *The Weekly* got the benefit of those efforts; if he sustained Mr. Davis in a falsehood, the exposure of which would surely involve that young artist in disgrace and difficulty, knowing it to be a falsehood, the result was none the worse for them. Mr. Ward shows that his efforts were entirely ingenuous, although his good nature had been much abused. And it needed only the torture of private notes into communications for the public (Mr. Ward's note printed as written to the paper was actually written to one of its proprietors), to complete the record of gross and malicious unfairness.

We do not remember to have seen in *The Journal of Civilization* any strictures upon the social habits of *The Times* correspondent, although they have been matters of general discussion. Its energies have been saved for the still more vulgar task of maligning his personal character. Grant that the drinking and smoking a journalist does is stimulus to intellectual exercise, and occasion for international jealousy; it is not yet an accepted trait of American civilization, nor of dignified and honest journalism, to belie the word of a gentleman, when it is given with a generous and unselfish purpose.

In speaking a few days ago of the raffish assault on Dr. Palmer by the carriage driver of the Brighton House, at Perth Amboy, we alluded to that hotel as the headquarters of a gang of Secessionists. This expression, we learn, has been misinterpreted to mean that none but Secessionists resort there. Such was not our meaning. While it is true that a small knot of Secessionists make the Brighton House their headquarters, it is equally true that most of the boarders at the hotel are loyal citizens, many of them of the highest respectability.

Fire in Boston.

Boston, Saturday, July 20, 1861.
The large wooden building on Cambridge street, used as the inward freight depot of the Boston and Maine Railroad, was destroyed by fire this morning. A considerable quantity of merchandise, which was stored there, was considerably damaged, including forty bales of cotton, a small quantity of flour, cases of books, &c.

Sailing of the North Briton.

QUEBEC, Saturday, July 20, 1861.
The steamship North Briton sailed at 1:45 p. m. today for Londonderry and Liverpool with 112 passengers.

PASSING CONTRABAND MONEY.—An old woman was arrested yesterday on the second attempt at passing a counterfeit \$5 bill on the Commercial Bank of Boston. She was recognized as one of a gang who attempted, about a fortnight ago, to flood the city with its own same bank notes. She was brought before the Justice of the Peace, but, owing to the disappearance of the complainant from the court-room, she escaped the punishment due for her crime.